



WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

TO THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

THE STORY GOES that when your Woman's Auxiliary was first organized in 1929, it was greeted with good-natured tolerance. If the women wanted another excuse for tea parties, well and good!

As 26 years of history has proven, however, the Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association turned out to be anything but "just another woman's club." From small beginnings—49 charter members—it has grown to be the largest Auxiliary in the nation. With the recent addition of 24 charter members of the Merced County Auxiliary, membership topped 6,000.

The list of achievements is even more impressive. Here are a few facts and figures:

During the past year your Auxiliary contributed close to \$18,000 to nurse recruitment, of which at least \$14,000 went to scholarships, thus speeding hundreds of young women on their way to relieving the nursing shortage. . . . There are now 56 Future Nurse clubs sponsored by the Auxiliary throughout the state. . . . Since 1949, nearly \$60,000 has been earmarked by the Auxiliary for nurse recruitment. Add to this an immeasurable amount of public interest in nursing as a career which has been stirred up. Last year the Auxiliary put \$5,217.99 into the coffers of the American Medical Education Foundation.

While primarily *not* a money-raising group, your Auxiliary contributed over \$3,000 to Physicians' Benevolence Fund last year, bringing the grand total of donations to this fund to approximately \$33,000 in the past 14 years.

Your Auxiliary works hand in hand with its Advisory Board. Current members of this board are Dr. Sidney Shipman, Dr. Donald A. Charnock, Dr. A. Justin Williams, Dr. Daniel Morton, Dr. Albert Daniels. The Auxiliary affiliates with no other federated organization without a go-ahead from the Advisory Board—checks all its policies and activities with the board.

Your Auxiliary is a member of the National Safety Council; a part of the Crusade for Freedom; a part of the World Medical Association.

Last year the Woman's Auxiliary was commended by the California State Legislature for being "an organization which has rendered many valuable services throughout the State of California." . . . Members keep up-to-date in legislative affairs on both the state and national level.

Although your Auxiliary handled tens of thousands of dollars last year, it functioned on an income of just \$5,864. (Auxiliary books are audited on April 15 of each year, and a financial report is issued on the membership in May.) . . . Dues in the County Auxiliaries vary from \$3 to \$10 a year. Of this, \$1 goes to the National Auxiliary, \$1 to the State Auxiliary, the remainder to the County Auxiliary. Physicians'

wives in counties where there is no Auxiliary may join the State Auxiliary for just \$2 a year, and so enjoy its privileges (including a subscription to *Courier*) and a share in its interesting program.

Last year, your Auxiliary accounted for 2,770 new subscriptions to *Today's Health*, over 62 per cent of its quota. (When subscribed through an Auxiliary member the price is a thrifty \$1.50 instead of the regular \$3.) . . . Members of the Auxiliary devote time and talent to many health service organizations, including the American Cancer Society, the Heart Association, the Crippled Children's Society, the Red Cross. Members help staff blood banks all over the state.

Two members of the Auxiliary have served as president of the Woman's Auxiliary to the A.M.A.—Mrs. James F. Percy, 1932-33; Mrs. Ralph Eusden, 1952-53. . . . Mrs. Carl Burkland, former state president, was reappointed secretary of the National Auxiliary for 1955-56.

Your Auxiliary feels that it can make one of its greatest contributions through community service—that through the performance of its individual members it can best promote friendship and understanding for the medical profession. . . . Members double their efforts at Christmastime to work on community projects, bringing Christmas cheer to the aged, the ill, the crippled and the shut-in.

Your Woman's Auxiliary has as its constant aim the bettering of public relations for the medical profession, the promotion of better understanding in the fields of medicine and public health.

The Woman's Auxiliary has 32 county auxiliaries organized out of a possible 40—6,002 individual members compared to the 13,500 members of the C.M.A.

The Los Angeles County Auxiliary is the largest County Auxiliary in the country, with 1,660 members. This tops the membership in state auxiliaries of 13 other states.

The state magazine *Courier* has been nationally commended, year after year, as the best publication in its field.

At the recent convention of the National Auxiliary in Atlantic City, your State Auxiliary received two awards from A.M.E.F. . . . participated on the legislation panel and the publications panel.

Your Auxiliary takes an active part in Civil Defense, sponsoring programs in its various counties. It is also active in mental health. An auxiliary committee is set up to work with the American Medical Association in self-education to determine our mental health facilities and resources.

Members get behind fund-raising projects with enthusiasm . . . last year \$3,005.42 was rung up in one county fund-raising project alone.

Behind all this activity there is a great deal of organization and work. So that you may become well acquainted with your Auxiliary and how it functions, we are planning to bring you informative articles about several of our different activities during the year.